
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

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GREGG CALLS FOR ELIMINATION OF TAX ON HEALTH CARE PREMIUMS FOR MILITARY AND FEDERAL RETIREES

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that he is an original co-sponsor of a measure introduced today to allow military and federal civilian retirees to pay their health premiums on a pretax basis, as well as to allow for a deduction for Tricare, the military health program, supplemental premiums. Senator Gregg, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, cosponsored a similar measure last year authored by Senator John Warner (R-VA), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. In the Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Appropriations measure, Senator Gregg supported a 4.1% across-the-board pay raise for military personnel along with Tricare for lifetime medical benefits for military retirees.

Senator Gregg stated, "Health care costs impose a significant hardship for retirees on a fixed income. This measure seeks to alleviate some of the financial difficulty felt by those who are retired by extending the pretax benefit currently enjoyed by active federal employees to military and federal retirees. These individuals have dedicated a significant portion of their lives to their communities and their country, and I hope this measure will garner broad bipartisan support and Senate approval this year."

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